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The Peace Conference at Portsmouth As the conference at Portsmouth draws near the feeling of doubt concerning its outcome is deepened rather than allayed. It is true that not one of the Japanese or Russian plenipotentiaries has disclosed by a word or a look the intentions of either of the Governments concerned. Misgiving is in the air, however, and, if we should trace it to its source we should probably find that it originated in the seeming irreconcilability of the unofficial statements made by Mr. SATO, who accompanies the Japanese envoys, and Mr. BRIANTCHANI-NOFF, the correspondent of a St. Petersburg newspaper which is sometimes described as Mr. WITTE's organ.

Before marking the difficulty of reconciling these statements we may do well to glance once more at the preliminary question whether the conference is not premature. Normally, a war comes to an end when one of the combatants recognizes that he has been beaten and believes that he has more to dread from a continuance of hostilities than from the conclusion of a peace on any terms that his opponent is likely to impose. Having reached this conviction he makes, through a neutral Power, a proposal of negotiations. This was the course pursued by Spain in 1898. Had not the overture which was made through M. CAMBON, the French Ambassador at Washington, resulted in the signing of a protocol Spain would have lost not only the Philippines, Cuba and Porto Rico, but also the Carolines. the Canaries and the Balearic Isles, and the seaports of the peninsula would have been subjected to bombardment. To cite another example, in the spring of 1871, when a preliminary treaty of peace was arranged with Germany, France possessed no military force qualified to make a sturdy resistance, a very large part of her territory was occupied by the German armies and the conquest of the remainder was only a question of a short time.

It would be absurd to say that at the present time Russia is in an analogous position. It is true that she has lost Port Arthur, which she should never have tried to keep, and the island of Sakhalin, which she had merely used for a penal settlement and valued chiefly for its strategic relation to the estuary of the Amur. She has also lost most of her warships, but she never had any reason to suppose that she could cope with Japan at sea. Russia's fight was to be made, as it always had been made, has been at any previous time in the last eighteen months. Vladivostok is untaken, and there has been ample opportunity to strengthen its works and its garrison. The army under Gen. LINIEVITCH, which is covering Harbin, is variously computed at from 800,000 to 400,000 men. Under its former commander it suffered two or three reverses, but in no case did the defeat become a rout, and the greater part of the Russian forces retreated for only a moderate distance. The losses suffered in artillery at Liaoyang and Mukden are understood to have been made good. while the infantry and cavalry have been receiving reenforcements almost daily. Under the circumstances, the St. Petersburg Government is in a much better position now than the French Second Empire was while it still had the armies of MacMahon and Bazaine in the field, for the fighting is on a remote frontier, instead of on the soil of Russia proper. Had Vladivostok fallen and not only the Ussuri district and the Amur basin, but the whole of eastern Siberia as far as Tomsk been conquered by Marshal OYAMA, and were a Japanese fleet under Admiral Togo known to be already far advanced on its way to the Baltic, Russia would still be incomparably better fitted to defy the invader than the French were at any time between the surrender of MacMahon's Metz. Still more absurd would it be to liken Russia's present predicament to Russian army within sight of Constantinople, the panic which caused him to sign the Treaty of San Stefano. Such being the actual state of things,

we repeat what we have formerly said, that the conference is premature, provided the Japanese are determined, as large pecuniary indemnity. It is true that the Russian autocracy is in such conceivably be tempted to purchase peace at almost any price in order to use the army under LINIEVITCH as an instrument of repression. It is also true that Russia is generally believed to have reached the end of her tether as regards the borrowing of money for the further prosecution of hostilities, though, doubtless, she could get the funds required for an indemnity. The correspondent of the Slovo, however, evidently thinks that there are two ways of looking at these factors of the situation. The autocracy may be afraid stricken Italians. They do ask that if to conclude peace upon terms that could a decent Chinaman comes to an Ameribe popularly depicted as disgraceful can port he shall receive decent treat-

and that would impose additional fiscalburdens on the taxpayers. Then, again, the German Kaiser, in his recent interview with the Czar, may have promised the latter that should Japan's demands prove inordinate the money readed to prolong resistance would be furnished rom Berlin.

Mr. WITTE unquestionably knows to just what an extent that interview modified his country', position.

#### Fraudulent Journalism.

On Wednesday, Aug. 2, the New York Herald printed, in the largest type available in its shop for an extraordinary occasion, this despatch said to have been received by wireless telegraph from the steamship Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, then approaching New York:

" M. WITTE, the Russian envoy, told me to-night I am afraid that negotiations will be ended within week, as Japanese conditions will be so intoler able as not to admit of discussion.

#### " FRANCIS M'CVLLAGH."

On Thursday, after Mr. WITTE's arrival, the same journal, in common with all the other newspapers, printed this signed statement by the Russian envoy:

"His Majesty the Czar has empowered me to

come hither and ascertain the conditions which our gallant adversary deems necessary and adequate as a basis for peace negotiations. . . The terms offered must first be ascertained, weighed and judged admissible by Russia before she can proceed to formal negotiations."

The authorized statement of Mr. WITTE gave the lie flatly to the New York Herald's pretended interview with him on shipboard on Tuesday.

But that was not all. As soon as Mr. WITTE was ashore he hastened to deny, with all the emphasis and particularity of which human speech is capable, the truth of the Herald's so-called interview with him on the Japanese conditions of peace. He declared that neither for publication nor privately had he said anything which could be construed into such an utterance. Not even in private conversation had he made such a remark. He added:

"I have not discussed the coming peace conference or its possibilities in any way. I am exceedingly sorry that so baseless a report was given

This specific and explicit denial by Mr. WITTE, branding the Herald's pretended interview with him as a fabrication inexpressibly outrageous under the circumstances of his coming to America, was published on Thursday morning in all but one of the New York newspapers.

The single exception is the New York Herald, which, if it had been deceived itself and an innocent party to the deception of the public, should have been the first to display, in type half an inch tall, its readiness to right the grievous wrong not only to Mr. WITTE but also to the truth and credit of American journalism. Not a word of correction has appeared either in the news columns of the New York Herald or on its editorial page since it published the fraudulent interview. It has permitted its readers to believe that the lie was the truth. with a cynical indifference to the requirements of professional honor scarcely to be expected of the most depraved member of what is commonly known as the yellow press.

# The Chinese Boycott.

It is difficult to measure either the real force of the Chinese trade boycott or the actual injury which results from on land, and for military operations in it. That a movement has been instinorthern Manchuria she now is, or tuted by the Chinese trade gilds is pretends to be, better prepared than she | now beyond question. Naturally those who are hurt by it, whether much or little, make an outcry. The wonder is that the Chinese have so long delayed their manifestation of protest against actions on our part which all fair minded Americans admit to be wrongful.

> We see no occasion for any serious alarm over the matter. The business of the United States would go right on if China never bought another dollar's worth. Assuming that a portion of our exports to Hongkong find their final sale in China, and that some of our exports to Europe also find their way thither, our total annual sales to the Flowery Kingdom are in the neighborhood of \$60,000,000, if we repeat the experience of the last fiscal year. That is about double the record of any previous year. For the fiscal year 1904 our direct sales were about \$13,000,000. About 75 per cent, of our sales to the country consists of cotton cloth and mineral oil. It is probable that, in any case, our cotton trade will be lost at an early day. The time will surely come when the demand from the Far East will be for raw cotton to supply whatever deficiency may appear in the local crop and when the people of China will clothe themselves with the product of domestic looms and spindles and with the output of Japanese mills.

At the same time any loss of immediate trade is undesirable, and proper steps army at Sedan and the capitulation at should be taken to prevent it. It does not appear that the boycott can be checked through any action of the Chinese the panic into which the Sultan ABDUL Government. That is no more possible HAMID was thrown by the arrival of a than it would be for the American Administration to compel the people of this country to drink certain brands of imported champagne or to use German Portland cement instead of French or English. It is a matter in which the Government of China has no power of dictation. The question must be de-Mr. SATO intimates that they are, to termined in this country and not in exact both a cession of territory and a China. Its adjustment can be reached only by a removal of the provoking cause of the boycott if the gilds, or imminent danger at home that it might | Chambers of Commerce, see fit to con-

tinue their present enterprise. If the Chinese importers persist in their attitude toward American made goods the issue for American consideration becomes definite. Shall we suffer a loss of trade, or shall we effect a reasonable liberalization of our immigration laws and their methods of operation? We do not understand that the movement contemplates the admission of all Chinamen to this country on the same terms as those on which we admit hordes of Russian refugees and poverty

ment. In this there is nothing at all unreasonable, and it would seem to be possible for our legislators to devise a system by which the objectionable can be differentiated from the unobjectionable and the desirable. It is unfortunate that an issue which is properly determinable only along the line of common national morality should be brought to a focus by an attack on our commercial interests. But the solution of the matter is in the hands of a Congress which does not meet for several months, and which may even then delay in its action.

Meanwhile, unless those who instituted the boycott see fit to remove the pressure, it is probable that nothing can be done about it except to grin and bear it and hunt for trade somewhere else. For instance, our neighbors in the western hemisphere buy as much manufactured cotton as China does. But we sold them less last year than we sold to China, in fact, less than half as much. A temporary exclusion from the Chinese market does not mean the closing of all gates of trade opportunity.

#### Huskey of Cherokee.

A new planet swims into our ken. We salute it joyously and shall watch it reverently. The Hon. KIMSEY HUSKEY. the most brilliant of the rising or risen statesmen of Cherokee county, S. C., has consented to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Member of the General Assembly. He has published a prospectus and a brief account of himself, a work that is an honor to Palmetto literature and politics and worthy of the politics and literature of any age.

Mr. Huskey is modest; his "few words about his own self" are more impressive than whole libraries. He was born in 1875 and has worked on the farm most of the time until four years ago, when he began to teach school. School teaching is to be his "life work." he thinks, not seeing, perhaps, the other honors that may be waiting for him. His autobiography is so simple, modest and amiable that a little of it must be given in his own words:

" I have done a little of everything that a farmer boy could do. I have plowed, hoed, ditched, cut cordwood, split rails, clerked in a store about two years, and have taught school about four years. We read about old 'Old ARE LINCOLN used to split rails; he split enough rails one winter for a man to get him a pair of pants. Now, that is about what he did, and the whole world has made a big thing of it. I split nine hundred rails my own self in one winter for an uncle of mine. If I will try as hard as I ought to I can do anything ABB LINCOLN did but be a Republican and a President. can't do that."

South Carolina, all the United States, hope, expect, demand that the Hon KIMSEY HUSKEY try as hard as he ought to. It is his duty to be a Democratic ABE LINCOLN and a President. While every State and Territory has its modern Democratic JEFFERSON, that of Nebraska having the widest range, perhaps, Democratic ABE LINCOLNS are scarce. Indeed, there isn't one of them. Even Mr. BRYAN has never been called the LINCOLN of Lincoln.

"I am a young man and not known by many of the people in this county," [country?] Mr. HUSKEY says in superfluous defense of his true description of himself. He is better known than he knows, and in a month or two his fame will fold in this orb o' the earth. The man who has but to try as hard as he ought to do all things but two that ABE South Carolina, for the United States, for a continent and a hemisphere. The Hon. KIMSEY HUSKEY is a world power. He has split rails not for mere trivial pants," but as the bright beginningwith no better ending-of a halcyon and vociferous proceeding.

It is a relief and pleasure to know that this man, henceforth to be reckoned within the councils of nations, looks at the frame of things with a hopeful and kindling eye. He is "well pleased with the conditions in Cherokee" and he will do all in his power to make such a condition in all South Carolina, all America all this oblate spheroid. But he is no rash and sudden doctrinaire. Evil exists, must continue to exist, while the round planet on its axle spins:

"There is being some whisky sold and drunk in this county now, and will be so long as baby boys are borned into the world, and just as lon as the mountains of North Carolina stand."

And just so long as baby boys are borned into the world and just as long as mountains stand-dum montibus umbræ-the fame of the Hon. Kimsey Hus-KEY, the rail splitter of Cherokee, will endure, provided he tries as hard as he ought to.

# The Hairlegger in Boston.

The Boston police report a queer thing. They insist that twice last week a man who described himself as a Jerseyite was caught in the three hilled city with nothing on him but his skin. Great and natural is the emotion thereat in Boston. She is reminded of the seventeenth century Quakers, who used to scandalize the Puritans by appearing in pure naturals as a symbol of the naked Truth. In most times, however, truth has to be pretty well muffled up; and why should a true blue Jerseyman leave the sacred soil of the Jerseys and take his life in his hands and venture into Boston?

There are no mosquitoes in the Jer seys this year. That is a grand and joyous fact, as to which a million porch dwellers are ready to swear. Besides, if a gang of, say, Bayonne mosquitoes had stripped this man of his clothes they would have eaten his flesh and stripped his bones, and Boston never would have been bothered by him.

This must be the work of the gipsy moth, that plague and curse which Massachusetts, by automobiles and otherwise, is now handing over to her sisters, hoping to get thereby a fat Federal appropriation and interstate moth hunt.

Let this be solemn and sufficient warn ing to Jerseymen. Because the wild beasts of her meadows are quiet temporarily must Jersey fly to new dangers? Let her hunt trusts if she needs

harmless sport. There's no place like home for a hairlegger.

We do not share the apprehensions of our Scranton correspondent concerning effect which President's ROOSEVELT'S appearance on the same platform with JOHN MITCHELL at Wilkesbarre this week might have in fortifying any possible plan of disturbance in the coal regions. We think Mr. Roosevert can be trusted to face any number of coal miners, whether under the eadership of Mr. MITCHELL or of any other man, and to impart to them by his spoken observations naught but sound American doctrine and increased respect for the law of the land.

Gone are the good old easy days! Next September our vigorous and acute con-temporary the Richmond Times-Despatch will begin to publish a Monday edition. Henceforth the Times-Despatch will come out every day in the year, holidays included. In accordance with custom, Sunday has been the "day off" for many of the newspaper brethren in the South. They didn't break the Sabbath. They went to church or loafed and invited their souls. Meanwhile, readers waited from Sunday till Tuesday to hear what was going o For twenty-four hours they lost sight of the watch of the world. People are no longer content to lose a day. Richmond and Virginia must have the news on Monday as on other days.

MILWAUKEE, Aug. 4.—Now it is said that Governor La Follette will not accept the Senatorship.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Thus does the astute one "keep 'em gues ing" and flirt outrageously with his old love and his new. Well, well; as a Senator he couldn't hope to suspend the rules. As Governor and orator he can suspend, in effigies of rhetoric, as many railroad presidents as he pleases.

We are receiving more letters from Jews protesting against the activities of the Christian "settlements" in the Ghetto. They treat these missionary labors as an impertinent attempt to Christianize Jewish children, and thus merely repeat the allegations of Jewish correspondents whose letters we have printed. That is, they add nothing to the case as it has been presented already. The controversy over the matter must stop, so far as THE SUN is concerned; and so far as the Jews are concerned its continuance would be extremely ill advised. Quarrels over religion are distinctly irreligious and their consequence

Would you believe it? There are hundreds men in Manchester who do not buy their own stockings, collars, gloves and shirts. Their wives of the buying.—Manchester Union.

Why not? Who should, can and know now to buy most skilfully and economically? Why, a man usually "gets stuck" even when he buys "specialities" like cigars, whisky and stocks.

To Mr. Wu: Come back at once and all will be forgiven.

#### POOR RICHARD.

A Man of the People Whom the People Delight to Honor.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The cause of the widespread interest in the Franklin bicen tenary is not far to seek. Franklin is a popula dol, and as no other historic figure, with the possi ble exception of Lincoln, he appeals to the masses Like Tom Paine, who strikingly resembles him a typifying the eighteenth century spirit, he is es-sentially a plain man of the people. He rose through his own abilities from obscurity and poverty to fame, and this fact would of itself have endeared him to the American heart.

He had, moreover, those estimable qualities of thrift, ahrewdness and industry that we of the Western Continent have ever found admirable and worthy of emulation. Indeed, it is not improbable that to Franklin's example and to the preaching of Poor Richard is due the fact that those qualitie of ingenuity, grit, energy and hardheaded perse verance that go to make up the Yankee spirit have ecognized as such wherever Americans have made

The popular approval and interest in this comnemorative celebration, however, are not only They prove that the good men does live after them, that humanity is not unresponsive or unappreciative, and that ultimately a man is judged by posterity somewhat, though f course not always exactly, according to hi descris. It is a conclusive refutation of the cry esimists and sophists that all is vanity, and that the use in anything is nothing.

In calling to mind the incidents of Franklin's

long, full life, in reviewing its splendid achieve-ments, in accounting so near as may be its lasting benefits to mankind, the conviction is borne in upon us that such a life is worth the living. The practise of virtue is amply rewarded, as in lin's case, by satisfaction in youth, honors in ma-turer years, veneration in age and the gratitude of succeeding generations. Truly, a well rounded life is, like the poet's song, monumentum are peren-nius; its good report will thrive in distant days. NEW YORK, Aug. 7. IRWIN SPEAR.

# Florida Proud of Being "Mongrel."

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your correspondent "A Southerner" this morning, apropos of my saying that the negro in Florida was treated cording to his deserts, avers that "Florida neve has been, nor can it be, strictly speaking, a Souther State. The home," he goes on, "of the broke down senegade Yankee, the last stand of the con implive, the dark wildersess where the escande of the rich man's son may be hidden, where the unfortunate from a dozen causes find a haven of rest-that is Florida. A mongrei State, pure and

I am not a Floridian, nor am I empowered to defend Florida against these hideous charges, and I must acknowledge that Henry M. Flagler and other renegade Yankees, more or less broken down have lined her shores from end to end with effet rallroads, hotels, factories and other loathsome evidences of prosperity; consumptives make there a last stand while changing cars for Colorade, New Mexico or Arizona; that rich men's sons hide thei didoes in the dark fastnesses of Palm Beach, St Augustine, Mismi, Daytona or similar wilder nesses, and sufferers from the poverty habit car try the work cure, rid themselves of confluen misfortunes, and find a haven where good profi follows intelligent labor.

I must also confess that Florida is "mongrel."
Worse still, she is proud of it. She is shamefully
overrun by keen men from every State in the Union, all giving proof of their lowly origin by being able and willing to work. The vulgar hum of industry echoes from surf to Everglades. Public sentiment is so degraded that thrift and enterprise are actu ally regarded as virtues. From the time the south ward hurrying tourist leaves Columbia, Florence Charlotte or Cairo, according to his route, the mos familiar feature of the landscape, morning, noon or eve, is the family group in the cabin doorway, men, women and children, busily and no doubt profitably engaged in watching the train go by This brilliant occupation never pleases the mon-greis of Florida. Now and then on the edge of a swamp, a proud and full-blooded Cracker disdains coarse and degenerate dollars earned by work, and damns the mongrels who drove him and the alligators from everlasting dawdle, but the rest of Florida is happy, comfortable, energetic

and progressive.

Rome was "mongrel." Her conquering legions made French, German and English mongrels of the races in Gaul and Britain. The United States is "mongrel" to the bone. China tries to curi its flat nose at "mongrel" Japan. Florida doesn a mind the name. Yet if "Southerner" ever goes South for a change he will find Florida Southern ent and love of better things. But he will not see her ceaselessly watching trains go by, nor hear her lament the fact that the full moon doesn't shine half as brightly now as it did JAMES K. BRISTOL 'befo' de waw, sub. NEW YORK, Aug. S.

# When the Worm Turned.

From the Stroudsburg Daily Times.
ne undersigned, here notify the people that Ed. A. Rinker need not worry, I would not make myself so little as to ask for anything in his name and I washed for my board and I had my own bed, to sleep in, so I did not leave his bed and board And I here notify them all to be careful what they dves ta trou

A COMMERCIAL HOLDUP.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.-Some months ago an American lobby representing the rice interests of Louisiana and Texas brought pressure to bear on the Cuban Congress for the purpose of inducing that body to increase the duty on all rice imported into the island. The proposed increase, affected by the 40 per cent. advantage given by the reciprocity treaty, would open the Cuban market to the American product, which the Cubans cannot now afford to buy. Seeing only a possible benefit to American trade, and without competent knowledge of the results of the bill or the methods by which it is being forced upon the Cubans, various American papers

have given the movement their approval. In 1904 Cubs imported 196,439,462 pounds of rice, of a value of \$3,864,337, or practically two cents per pound. All except an insignificant quantity was Asiatic rice, imported chiefly via Europe. England supplied nearly 60 per cent. of it, Germany about 20 per cent., and the remainder came from various countries. About 4,500,000 pounds, valued at \$90,000, was supplied by the United States. As the consumption for 1904 was a fair average of Cuba's annual requirement, the trade is evidently worth having. But the American people neither need nor want a trade which is almost choked out of a weaker neighbor, against the wish and contrary to the interests of the weaker country. If we cannot get business by fair and open methods, or without playing the bully, we could better maintain our national self-respect by geting along without it.

The present Cuban duty on rice is \$1.20 per 100 kilos (about 220 pounds) for shipments from all countries except the United States. The rate on rice from this country, under the reciprocity treaty, is only 72 cents. The so called ley de arroz, or rice bill, proposes an increase to \$2.75 per 100 kilos, which would give to the United States an advantage of \$1.10, or one-half a cent a pound over all competitors. To this there might be no objection if it did not mean a large increase in the cost of an article of diet which is in Cuba quite what flour is in the United States. It is the staple food of the people. And the proposal is that every Cuban peasant and workman shall pay an annual sum from his pittance for the benefit of American rice growers and American and Cuban transportation

It is claimed by the promoters of the measure that the increased cost would be trivial, that the rate paid on present imports is \$1.20, and that the new rate on imports from the United States would be \$1.65, an increase of only 45 cents on 220 pounds, or less than a quarter of a cent per pound. Assuming Cuba's total supply to be obtained from this country, which it would not be, even that would add nearly \$500,000 a year to the island's cost of living.

There are several interesting features in this movement to which attention may be called. When Cubans who have been induced to support such a bill use such arguments as some that are advanced, they at once lay their cause open to suspicion One argument made by an advocate in the Cuban House is that the present reciprocity treaty is not fair to the United States. The fact is that a special agent, Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, virtually dictated the terms of the reciprocity treaty, having at all times and in all items, as an expert authority, clearly in view the equalizing of American competition with that of all other lands. If we did not get all that properly belongs to us we need no Cuban advocate to protest against the unfairness of the result.

Another argument is that the advantage given to Cuban sugar in our custom house is one of the causes of the deficit in our revenues, and therefore Cuba should do what she can to help us out of our financial hole by increasing, even at her own cost, her purchases from us. Such arguments are silly and ridiculous. If they were less so they would be as disgraceful to us as they are to those who utter them. Another argument widely used is that if this adwill be abrogated and no new treaty made Those who use that argument, whether Cubans or Americans, officials or laymen. go far beyond the bounds of any justification.

American rice growers cannot supply the rice required by Cuba, nor can the product of American fields be sold in competition with the rice of Saigon and Rangoon. The total American production last year was about 470,000,000 pounds, out of which about 75,000,000 pounds was exported In addition to our home production we imported for domestic consumption more than 100,000,000 pounds of rice, rice flour, rice meal and broken rice. It would, in view of these facts, be interesting to know just where we are to get the 200,000,000 pounds needed by Cuba. It certainly cannot come from our domestic production, because we do not produce it. If it be a question of supplying the cereal from the Far East. a proposition to which the promoters of this scheme would object strongly, we fail to see why American traders, with the present 40 per cent. tariff advantage, may not now compete with England and Ger-

many. The truth of the matter is that the Cuban rice bill, in its conception and the methods which have been used to foist it on the Cuban people, is discreditable to the United States. It should receive no official support, and should meet with nothing except opposition and condemnation from the press. It was jammed through the Cuban House, is hung up in the Cuban Senate, and should it pass the Senate would be vetoed by the President were it not for his fear that the United States would charge Germany.
Outside of a financially interested clique

succeed in jamming or bullying it through the Cubans must expect to see a cotton clique, a machinery clique, a wine lobby, a glass and crockery group, a boot and shoe aggregation, and a long procession of other interests demanding monopolistic privileges in the Cuban custom house.

# BALTIMORE'S RECOVERY.

Conditions in the Burned District Eighteen Months After the Fire. From yesterday's Baltimore Sun

This day a year and a half ago began the great fire which inflicted on the principal business district of Saltimore a loss estimated at fully \$75,000. 060. As all the world knows it raged Feb. 7 and 8, What an extraordinary change since those two memorable days! The burnt district is now more than three-fourths reconstructed and that, too, in a manner which will make it superior to the business enter of any other city in the world. The taxable basis of this area has already largely increased over what it was before the fire and is

mounting at a rapid rate, as great new improvements are being added.

Permits to build have been issued for about 770 of the 968 lots on which the reconstruction of the district depended. The declared cost of the new buildings is \$4.093,145 greater than the total assessments of those destroyed by the fire, and the actua increase is estimated at fully \$9,000,000.

verdict of the world was that Baltimore had

year accomplished a tremendous feat. In the last six months she has done a great deal more, and With her new sewerage system, new docks, new spending, or about to spend, more than \$100,000,000 on public improvements.

niversary of the fire last February the

MR. ROOSEVELT'S JOURNEY TO WILKESBARRE.

Report That John Mitcheil is to Preside

at Next Thursday's Meeting. SCRANTON, Pa., Aug. 7 .- What is this story now heard in the anthracite regions? A story curiously interesting, but almost unbelievable because of the brazen effrontery involved therein; a story of general interest to the whole country and of particular interest o the President of the United States, who is to visit Wilkesbarre, Pa., on Thursday next, and make an address in public. Here is the story: In company with a Pennsylvania office-

holder of national distinction, the Rev. Father Curran, a well known Roman Catholic priest of Wilkesbarre, called on the President last year, and invited him to visit Wilkesbarre this week for the purpose of addressing members of the Catholic Temperance Union, in which Father Curran is prominent. The President consented, but only a few days elapsed before rumors began to appear in newspapers to the effect that he was going to the coal regions to address the miners, for whom he had shown such strong and generous sympathy during the strike of 1902. Seldom, if ever, have newspapers alluded to the Catholic Temperance Union in connection with the President's visit to Wilkesbarre It has been generally accepted as a fact that he was going there solely to speak to Mr. John Mitchell's body of United Mine Workers, whose representatives of late have been canvassing the region for subscriptions to pay the expenses of the affair.

And now comes the most unusual part of the story. Father Curran may be allowed on the platform with the President, but he is to have only a minor part, if any whatsoever, in the event. The chairman of the meeting is not to be Senator Knox, or Representative Palmer, or any of the scores of able and respected Judges, clergymen, lawyers, artisans, miners, or business men residing in Wilkes-

in the chairman of that meeting is more to be even a citizen of the Keystone State; but John Mitchell of Illinois, who for five months past has been getting his men in lide for a second disastrous strike which is scheduled to be declared in May or June of next year.

And win't Simply and solely to impress the miners, especially the hundred thousand ignorant, unthinking foreigners among them, with the firm belief that in his work as labor agitator John Mitchell has standing beside him, backing him up, approving his course, the President of the United States and the powers of Federal Government represented by him. There will be the mine workers by the thousand score, jamming the place of meeting, thronging the streets and alleys of meeting, thronging the streets and the provided thronging through the provided thronging through the provided thronging thronging through the provided thronging thronging through the provided thronging thronging thronging the streets and the provided thronging thronging thronging throngin

one else is appointed chairman of next Thursday's meeting at Wilkesbarre.

# SWAT FOR SWAT.

Some Picturesque Remarks on New Orleans and Yellow Jack. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A com-

munication in yesterday's issue of your paper, "Jefferson on Yellow Fever," shows that he had unbounded faith in our city. Where the fever is now located and isolated is around ings which are damp, dark, and which would offer no inducement to anybody to dwell in. The sanitary conditions can not be seen account of their build. Imagine thirty or forty persons living in one house, in some cases on one floor. This has been only for a short while, since they commenced to immigrate. These Italians work in gangs, un-loading the fruit ships under a boss. They are called any hour of the night, loaded into wagon, and work until the ship is unloaded After this hot work in the hold of the vesse they go back to their abode and to bed, full of perspiration, and there is no bathtub in large stone jars that stand in the yard and satch the rainfall. These Italians have no conception at all of

sanitary conditions. The health officers have to use force to enter, and the sights and scenes are unimaginable. They also hide themselves when they become sick, and that is the sole reason why the fever is rampant in that district. The Holt system of quarantine was good, very good. While Drs. Holt and Wilkinson were chief quarantine officers we had no yellow fever, and we would have none to-day if the regulations were enforced. Some people have the idea that the fever is Roman fever and that the Italians imported it themselves. The same fever might be yellow fever, for all we know. Things that are portrayed in some papers are unnewspaper-like and very contemptible, but to get back now would be like throwing a barrel across the street at a fig. New Orleans will stand to a man for the city, and when the time comes we shall see where the blame lies, because we have hurt ourselves to a certain extent.

The question does not rest mainly on the State Board of Health, but on other bodies as well. We have and hold sincerely our constitutional right, and would rather die than waive it. We have at no time taken a kick or used harsh words at the under dog. We have allowed our hospitals in this city to be kept open all year to surrounding States, and give them welcome, whatever their aliments be, who come to the door for admittance and treatment. As to the so-called civil war now on the quarantine law and regulations the opinion is to a man that somebody is playing to the gallery and for a job in Washington. If that be his dream, better wake upbut when they learn we mean business it will be a different proposition in large bright colors. sanitary conditions. The health officers have to use force to enter, and the sights and scener

will be a different proposition in large original colors.

The claim is that they are playing around the fishing camps, which are really in the boundary of New Orleans, and they better skidoo before Saturday, as those camps are crowded on that day and Sunday by members and there is all kind of stock. There won't be any people who don't understand the English language and know right from when.

the English language and know right from wrong.
We have only ourselves to blame, as I mentioned before. Not a friend in the surrounding States. No money have we asked for. Many times we have fought for their rights, to show them we were in accord with their views and convictions. We will have hard times, commercially, for two or three months. Then we can rest up, and in the meanwhise we will stand out in the middle of the food, twenty miles wide on each side, and open clear country on each side, and swait for swat: and New Orleans will go ahead, as there will be no yellow fever in our good city at all. And don't forget we forgive the people who have been show things by other people in a wrong tight.

New Orleans, Aug. 4. Boen Resident.

# An Early Instance.

Jupiter had just kicked Vulcan out of heaven. You can publish anything at all about "You can publish anything at all about me," he ahouted as Vulcan fell, "but I'm hanged if I subscribe to your confounded 'Gods and Goddesses."

Hence the reputation of Jupiter in mythology.

Finny Convesting Agent Eel-How would you like to have your hisory in a magnificent book? Mr. Trout-No use; the man who catches me will make me bigger than I'd dare to make myself. A NEW TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

A Vision of the World's Peace Guaranteed by England, France and America. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Your recent article on the possibility of a close understanding between Great Britain. Frame and the United States for the preservation of the world's peace brings to mind a similar thought which crystallized in my own mind some time ago. This seems to be a time in world affairs when people who devote much thought to the subject are casting about which would insure a definite and lasting peace, one that would result in the establishment of an arbitration tribunal that would stand for something more than mere international politeness and whose conclusions would result in accomplished facts and acts. As a corollary of this tribunal an international court might be established, with a fixed personnel and a place of meeting, opinions and decisions of which said court would be binding on whosoever sought

This desired alliance seems to include,

naturally, Great Britain, France and the United States. What happier family of nations could be gathered together? Did they not all spring from the same stock? To go no further back than the days of the Norman invasion of Britain, we have the family tree almost perfect-in an almost unbroken line descent. So much for the sentimental side, coupled with our well defined liking What more potent influence could be injected into world politics than such an alliance? It would be a practical guarantee of the political and geographical entity of not only Turkey, China, Corea, Egypt, Central Africa, South America, &c. but of the entire world. And would not such an alliance insure practical peace and commercial ex-ploitation of the world, and to mutual benefit? The signatories to such a treaty (the three mentioned) would form an armed combination, naval and military, such as

the world has never known. Great Britain, with her chain of forts. granaries, coaling stations and banks round the world: France, with her Eastern possessions and connecting links, naval bases and commercial houses, and the United States with her Philippines, Hawaiian and Midway

Japan's borrowings abroad since May. 1904, have amounted to \$410,000,000, of which \$180,000,000 was eagerly taken up in the United States, and the remaining \$220,000,000 was no less eagerly subscribed in other countries. The \$410,000,000 total involves an annual interest charge of \$20,100,000. receipts and the tobacco monopoly. The estimated receipts from these sources in 1905-06, based on prior receipts, are \$10,500,000 and \$16,000,000 re-spectively, a total of \$26,500,000, or \$6,400,000 more then the year's bond interest. The holders of these bonds need not lose any sleep over the safety

of their investments. Japan has issued five internal loans aggregating 480,000,000 yen, or \$240,000,000. The first issue of \$50,000,000 was for five years at 5 per cent., and was subscribed for four and a half times over; the see ond, for \$50,000,000, for seven years at 5 per cent, was three times subscribed; the third, for \$40,000,000, for seven years at 8 per cent., did as well; the fourth, for \$50,000,000, for seven years at 6 per cent., was nearly five times subscribed; the fifth, for \$50,000. 000, for seven years at 6 per cent., fared better still, meeting a surprising full fivefold subscription. The Japanese Imperial Government credit is first class abroad, with security, but it is double first class at home without security. By contrast, note the recent refusal of the bankers of St. Petersburg o float a \$75,000,000 internal loan for the Russian

Imperial Government.

Japan's total external and internal war loans to date aggregate \$650,000,000, with an annual in-terest charge of \$33,100,000, of which \$20,100,000 is secured and \$18,000,000 unsecured, with the profit shie Government owned railways not yet borrowed upon, as shown in the article entitled "Japanese Railways." published in THE SUN of May 13.

Japan's Government tobacco monopoly is a paying proposition, and increasingly so. In the fiscal year 1880-1900 it yielded a net revenue of \$3,-800,000; in 1901-02 the revenue was \$5,433,000; in 1904-05 it was \$10,536,000 (nearly doubled in only three years); and in 1905-06 it will be \$16,005,000, year. The year's interest charge on this is only \$13.500.000 for the last \$200,000,000 external loans Japan's customs receipts in 1899-1900 fiscal year were \$7,968,000; in 1903-01, \$8,689,000; in 1904-50, \$9,-884,000, and in 1905-03 they will reach and perhaps exceed \$10,504,000. The year's interest charge on these receipts for the first two external loans. aggregating \$110,000,000, is only \$6,600,000. Loaning money to Japan is almost as safe as buying United States bonds, and certainly far

To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: The Navy Department put an Easign 21 years old in charge of the steam plant on the Bennington and selected chusetts an engineer of twenty-two years experience in the engine and boiler room, but who never navi The consequences are known to the world-the

boilers on the Bennington were blown up. killing over seventy men in the prime of life, and the dassachusetts was on the rocks within twenty four hours after leaving port, causing a damage

Apply the same methods to this corruption as to the Equitable scandals. It is of more important nd the enlisted men. BROOKLYN, Aug. 5. A VETERAN SAILOR.

New Enterprise. Visitor-So Painted Post is looking up Native-You bet; we're laying wires to get the next peace convention.

According to the Envoys. "I liked your town," said Mr. Witte, Your busy streets, your harbor gay. And most especially my call On Theodore, at Oyster Bay; And Portsmouth will be pleasant, too,

It is a quaint old spot, I see Your great politeness," added he, "With Nicholas will make a hit. And, as a bond of unity. uld-how?-Make peace? Oh. no. dear mel "This trip has been a fruitful one.

Of great results without a check, A splendid man, your President," Komura says, (per Sato, Sec.). "From this momentous stay of mine A host of blessings soon will flow;

Across the great Pacific pond We'll hall it as a further bond Twist you and us, from which will grow Br-what was that?-Make peace?-Oh

heat

Geo